## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all previous versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Original) A method for improving the efficiency of manufacturing a product, comprising the steps of:

receiving from a manufacturer a desire to manufacture a number of said products; determining an amount of materials required to produce said number of products; determining a process for manufacturing said number of products;

calculating a cost to manufacture said number of products based on said amount of materials and said process;

providing to said manufacturer said process and said cost to manufacture said number of products.

- (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:
  receiving from said manufacturer a payment proportional to said cost to manufacture said number of products.
- 2.3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of: providing said amount of materials to said manufacturer.
- 3.4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said process requires a tool, said method further comprising the step of:

providing to said manufacturer said tool.

SHL-0031

U.S. Serial No. 09/723,302 Page 3

- 4.5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said process for manufacturing said number of products is an optimum process.
- 56. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said materials is provided by a material provider and said process for manufacturing said number of products is the intellectual property of said materials provider.
- 67. (Currently Amended) A system for improving the efficiency of manufacturing a product, comprising:

a product database storing a plurality of products, said product database including a material list and a process description for manufacturing each of said plurality of products;

a pricing engine, said pricing engine receiving a manufacturer's desire to manufacture a number of said products, said pricing engine accessing said product database for determining an amount of material, a process and a cost for manufacturing said number of products; and

a manufacturer interface module, said manufacturer interface module providing to said manufacturer said amount of materials and said process for manufacturing said number of products.

- <u>8</u>7. (Cancelled)
- 98. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 7, wherein said manufacturer interface module receives from said manufacturer a payment proportional to said cost to manufacture said number of products.
- 109. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 76, further comprising a delivery manager, said delivery manager causing said amount of materials to be delivered to said manufacturer.
- 1110. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 109, wherein said delivery manager causes a tool

SHL-0031

U.S. Serial No. 09/723,302 Page 4

required to perform said process to be delivered to said manufacturer.

- 1211. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 76, wherein said process for manufacturing said number of products is an optimum process.
- 1312. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 76, wherein said materials is provided by a material provider and said process for manufacturing said number of products is the intellectual property of said materials provider.